drudge, or the wife has been a termagant and luckless daughters-in-law have been led a life little better than slavery. There have been homes into which the husband has brought concubine after concubine, adding a fresh one as his passion has cooled toward the last, where children have grown up undisciplined and high ideals have been ignored. The arranging of marriages by the elders without consultation with the couple immediately concerned has led to unhappy situations in which the husband and wife have at best never more than tolerated each other and at the worst have lived continuously at swords' points. The practical universality of marriage has forced some, as an alternative to an unhappy and socially maladjusted celibacy, into an unfortunate union, perhaps with a physically or mentally defective mate. The communal holding of property by large families has often led to continuous friction, and the division of the property, when finally effected, has frequently left an aftermath of bitterness. When families made up of several smaller ones live together in one homestead, friction between brothers, between sisters-in-law, and between children is almost inevitable and at times becomes both chronic and acute. Moreover, not infrequently filial piety has scarcely been rendered even lip service and parents have been neglected. Then, too, the family is by no means always stable. In the case of the very poor a famine or some other economic calamity may scatter its members. Civil or foreign war may lay waste whole provinces and annihilate or break up homes. The death of a parent, especially of the father, may have something of the same effect. In the case of poorer families, daughters may be sold into what is little better than slavery, or even into

prostitution.

On the other hand, there have been and are many homes in which husband and wife hold each other in profound respect and deep affection. Nor has this been so uncommon as might be expected by the Westerner who regards marriage as a relationship entered into freely by the bride and groom. In a society in which boys and girls have been prepared by their rearing to expect their elders to arrange for their mating, and in which education—especially of the girl—has fitted each to fulfill his or her part in wedded life, the existence of happy homes is not surprising. Moreover, parents with the affection for their children which has existed in China, as elsewhere, have, probably more frequently than